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Hosts of Labor Defeat Infamous Initiative No. 1

Merriam Is Defeated by Big Plurality by Olson. Downey Elected Senator

DEFEAT of Proposition No. 1 on the ballot at last Tuesday's election was the most important result of the polling to the hundreds of thousands of union men and women in California, despite the fact that the election brought defeat to Bancroft, the anti-labor candidate for United States senator, and to Governor Frank F. Merriam.

Probably the most hotly contested balloting on an initiative measure ever experienced in the Golden State, there were trade unionists who were fearful up to the last minute that the vicious and un-American Proposition No. 1, which restricted the activities of union labor in a manner that could only have been equaled in a "totalitarian" state, might possibly be adopted. When the result of the early voting was announced over the radio and the newspapers jubilation was expressed by thousands of union men and women and commendation of the work of the State Federation of Labor committee in charge of the battle, the committee representing the San Francisco Labor Council and the Citizens' Committee Against Proposition No. 1 was generally expressed.

BIG PLURALITIES FOR DEMOCRATS

At this writing (Thursday morning) the returns show that Culbert C. Olson has been elected governor by a plurality of more than 150,000 over the incumbent, Merriam; Patterson maintains a lead of approximately 100,000 over Franklin for lieutenant governor, and that Downey has defeated the anti-labor Bancroft by at least 100,000 for United States senator.

For attorney general, Earl Warren was elected without opposition that could be called a contest. Jordan, for secretary of state, also was practically unopposed, as also was Ray Riley for controller.

The vote on Proposition No. 1, with returns from 9464 precincts out of 12,472, was: Yes, 758,533; No, 1,031,259.

The so-called humane pound act, No. 2 on the ballot, with 7852 precincts heard from, showed more than a two to one vote against the measure.

Proposition No. 20, the single tax measure, was snowed under by a vote of Yes, 267,383; No, 1,256,131.

No. 25, the "ham and eggs" proposal, was defeated by a vote of 755,786 for and 969,357 against.

For Congressmen, Frank C. Havener, in the Fourth district, defeated Dawson by more than 22,000 votes; and Dick Welch, incumbent, was unopposed in the Fifth district.

For state senator, John F. Shelley defeated Levey by a vote of 124,012 to 85,686.

Semi-official returns from the 1055 San Francisco precincts gave the following returns for assemblymen:

Twentieth District—Maloney (unopposed), 11,119.

Twenty-first District—Gilmore (unopposed), 13,205.

Twenty-second District—Bergemann, 13,221; Collins, 19,841; Holmes, 1934; Yates, 813.

Twenty-third District—Hornblower, 9390; Gallagher, 12,151; Healy, 504.

Twenty-fourth District—O'Day, 17,945; Laramée (Communist), 957.

Twenty-fifth District—Cronin, 24,388; Rabin (Communist), 1633.

Twenty-sixth District—Williamson, 16,540; Nugent, 2015.

Twenty-seventh District—Wollenberg, 12,581; Harris, 9530.

Twenty-eighth District—Green, 13,690; Lazarus, 12,926.

For member of the State Board of Equalization, George Reilly defeated Andrew J. Gallagher by a vote of 125,693 to 89,302.

For confirmation as member of the San Francisco Board of Education, Richard E. Doyle received 104,405 "yes" votes to 34,753 "noes."

WILL HE PARDON MOONEY?

In a statement issued by Governor at Los Angeles on Wednesday last it cated that Tom Mooney, who has serve years in San Quentin on conviction for 1916 Preparedness Day bombing, in which several persons lost their lives, would be pardoned by the new chief executive "unless anyone entitled to a hearing can show cause why he should not be freed."

Olson made it apparent, however, that he would hold thorough hearings before taking any action in the matter. He also reiterated his previous statements that, in his opinion, Mooney was convicted on perjured testimony and false evidence.

"I stated in the Senate in 1937 that I did not believe Mooney guilty of this outrageous and revolting crime, and that if he was guilty he should have been hanged," Olson told reporters.

Mooney was reported as jubilant over the election result and appeared confident that only a short time will elapse before he will walk the streets of San Francisco a free man. With caution, however, he said:

"Mr. Olson made no promises to me, and I asked him for none. Through his campaign, when I lent him my help, I was relying solely on his record as a liberal legislator.

"What will I do if I am released from prison? Well, they've been asking me that question for twenty-two years and I've never felt certain enough of the future to give an answer. That is a bridge we will cross when we come to it."

Mooney spent two hours in conference with his attorney, George Davis, in the office of the captain of the guard at San Quentin Prison Wednesday. After the conference he announced that, pending any action on the part of the new governor, preparations would continue for a fourth presentation of his case before the United States Supreme Court.

Captain Charles Goff, of the San Francisco Police Department, who prepared the original case, said that he would present arguments against a pardon for Mooney. He said:

"I will give all the facts to the new governor. I am prepared to show, on the basis of evidence

New Governor Gives Promise of Pardon for Long-Confined Mooney

which the highest courts of the land have found valid, that Mooney had a fair trial."

Mooney and his sympathizers have claimed through the years he was convicted of the bombing which killed ten persons and injured forty others in San Francisco's Preparedness Day parade of July 22, 1916, because he was "an agitator and advocate of aggressive action against privileged interests."

In Folsom Prison, meanwhile, Warren K. Billings, former shoe clerk, who was convicted with Mooney, sent a message of "good luck" to Mooney said:

"I am glad to learn that a governor d who is favorably disposed toward Mooney. I wish him luck. I hope that the may react favorably toward my own cause, though I realize the circumstances are different."

WILL RESURRECT EPIC PLAN

Modifications of the old Upton Sinclair "Epic" plan will be used to aid California's unemployed, according to a statement made by Governor-elect Olson in Los Angeles on Wednesday last.

"We expect to place the unemployed at productive work," he said, "thereby reducing taxes, and we reaffirm the principle of giving the unemployed work to maintain themselves. In so doing we will offer every aid and encouragement to self-help co-operatives."

Asked about the old "Epic" plan in the broader sense in reference to the production for use section, the governor-elect replied:

"Production for use in the broader sense would eliminate the profit system, wouldn't it?" He did not elaborate on that question.

Olson announced that President Roosevelt telephoned him from the President's Hyde Park home and was elated with California's Democratic victory.

"President Roosevelt invited me over the phone to come to Washington to confer with him on California problems that can be solved by federal and state co-operation," he said, "and I expect to accept that invitation."

DOWNEY TELLS OF POLICIES

In an interview published yesterday morning Sheridan Downey, newly elected California senator, told of his policies and attributed his victory at the polls to his "strong support of the 'ham and eggs' pension plan." He pledged himself to further activities on behalf of "our senior citizens." He said:

"I intend to devote vigorous efforts to a plan of national rehabilitation based on increased national purchasing power, which can only be brought about through retirement annuities for the senior citizens, higher wages and better prices for farm products."

"I will support the General Welfare Act, which is, after all, the Townsend plan."

Destruction of Unions On Chicago Newspapers Object of Combination

By JOSEPH A. WISE (I. L. N. S.)

The American Newspaper Guild is at it again in Chicago. Or rather the National Labor Relations Board, at the instigation of the Guild, has set up a court of alleged investigation in the Chicago federal building with the objective of destroying two American Federation of Labor local unions of "front office" and editorial room employees; of gaining a foothold in each and all of the daily newspaper mechanical departments, and of causing general confusion and discord between the publishers and the legitimate trade unions with which they have maintained contractual relations for many years.

The American Newspaper Guild filed a charge with the National Labor Relations Board that the management of the two Chicago Hearst daily newspapers had coerced and used various unfair means to compel the editorial room and "front office" employees to join the Chicago Editorial Association and the Newspaper Commercial Associates, both chartered by the A. F. of L. This was an alleged violation of the "unfair labor practices" provision of the Wagner act.

Previous Case Postponed

Previously, from May 26 to June 14, 1938, the Guild had tried to make a case against each and

all of the Chicago printing trades unions. Under the leadership of Don Stevens, Guild organizer, and Ben Meyers, a young lawyer who earns a precarious livelihood representing super-radical causes, the Guild made such a poor showing that the N.L.R.B. at Washington was forced to postpone the case "indefinitely."

These two cases were consolidated with another case of similar purport late in October, and the whole business was reopened with the view of ballyhooing Chicago newspaper employees in all departments into joining the Guild in sufficient numbers to give the Guild control after an election to be ordered by the N.L.R.B.

State Federation Intervenes

The N.L.R.B. put two men regarded by labor as strong C. I. O. partisans in charge of the current hearing. They are Trial Examiner Henry W. Schmidt of Washington and Attorney Herbert N. Shenko of Chicago.

Victor A. Olander, secretary-treasurer of the Illinois State Federation of Labor, has intervened through Daniel D. Carmell, counsel for the Illinois state branch of the American Federation of Labor.

None of the printing trades is represented.

Edward G. Woods, a noted member of the Chicago bar, is representing the Hearst organization.

Daily Papers Muzzled

I have no hesitancy in saying that this case presents the most extraordinary situation I ever have encountered in a half century of activity in the printing and publishing business. All that is lacking to put it on a level with "legal" matters in totalitarian European countries is the addition of force.

All daily newspapers are muzzled by the fear that they will be yanked into court on a charge of "unfair labor practice" if they dare to publish the facts in reference to these Guild cases.

The International Labor News Service is the only news gathering agency in the United States which has the sand to tell the truth about the unlawful and unconstitutional activities of the C. I. O.-N.L.R.B.-American Newspaper Guild combination.

Warships Built in Private Yards To Cost Fifty Million Dollars

The Navy Department, opening bids for three new battleships, discovered that the private shipbuilding companies would charge from \$49,600,000 up for a 30,000-ton ship if allowances were made for the changes in the cost of labor and material.

Last year the Navy Department opened bids for battleships and discovered that its own navy yards could and would build the ships for approximately \$37,000,000, while the private firms wanted around \$50,000,000.

Because the navy shipyards are already full, the navy will have to pay the price demanded by the private builders.



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Organized Labor's Fight On Unfair Publications Showing Good Results

In the Hearst newspapers of November 6 appeared a special dispatch from New York relative to the financial operations of certain newspapers and publications which is of particular interest to the printing trades unions.

It is known to all readers of the Labor Clarion that the Allied Printing Trades Unions have been conducting a vigorous fight against certain nationally circulated magazines printed by the Curtis Publishing Company and the Donnelley Publishing Company, both anti-union enterprises. The Curtis Publishing Company prints the "Saturday Evening Post," the "Ladies' Home Journal" and the "Country Gentleman." The Donnelley Company prints "Time" magazine and the picture magazine, "Life."

According to the dispatch mentioned the Curtis Publishing Company, "one of the leading factors in the magazine field," stopped paying dividends on its preferred stock entirely, after a year of reduced disbursements.

Drop in Advertising Linage

Standard Statistics Company is quoted as authority for the statement that there has been a drop in advertising linage in the first eight months of this year for "Time" magazine of about 30 per cent, and for its companion, "Life," a loss of some 52 per cent. The monthly, "Fortune," is reported to have lost 29 per cent for the first nine months.

No dividends have been paid on the Curtis common stocks since 1932, when \$1 was disbursed. In 1929 the company paid a 100 per cent stock dividend and \$6 in regular cash payments and \$2 extra on common.

The preferred stock, on which the dividends have just been cut, from a high of 121 1/4 in 1929, declined to a low of 30 in 1933, came back to 114 in 1936 and 109 1/2 last year. On November 1 this year it closed at 43 1/8, but has been as low as 35 this year.

Shrinkage in Gross Revenues

The three magazines—"Saturday Evening Post," "Ladies' Home Journal" and the "Country Gentleman"—in 1929 brought in gross revenues of \$84,619,310. These shrunk to \$27,116,143 in 1933, the banking holiday year, and last year were only \$36,379,116, or off 57 per cent from the 1929 level.

Net earnings last year were \$4,120,509 before the preferred dividends, and for the nine months of this year they are down to \$1,128,482.

"The answer to this," says the dispatch, "lies in the business depression."

But the printing trades unions have a different and more plausible answer. While hundreds and thousands of industrial stocks have shown recovery in the last year, these unfair publications are still on the down grade. Perhaps the unremitting fight of the printing trades unions, in which they have enlisted the efforts of organized labor throughout the nation, are accountable for the declining financial status of these publications and the publishers who are responsible for their printing.



Emergency Rail Board A Unit in Rejecting Plea for Cut in Wages

Three men, one a Southern conservative of wide labor experience, the others eminent college men and one of them a former member of the Federal Trade Commission, united in accepting the objections of railroad labor to the proposed 15 per cent wage cut, and united also in rejecting every plea and argument put up by the management and financial authorities of the railroads in demanding that wage cut.

This tells the story. No other statement of twice the length would tell it quite so completely.

The report submitted by the emergency fact-finding board named by the President, consisting of Judge Walter P. Stacy of North Carolina, Dean James M. Landis of the Harvard Law School, and Professor Harry A. Millis of the University of Chicago, summed up as follows:

"1. That wages of railway labor are not high even as compared with wages in other comparable industries.

"2. A horizontal reduction of wages on a national scale would not meet the financial emergency of the industry, since the savings would not be distributed merely to the needy roads.

Cut Blow at All Wages

"3. A wage reduction in the railroad industry would run counter to the trend of wage rates in industry generally.

"4. The financial distress of the carriers which has obtained since October, 1937, when the last wage increases were granted, is as yet a short-term situation. As such, it cannot be regarded as grounds for a wage reduction, especially in view of present indications of an improvement in the business of the carriers.

"5. In the light of these findings, the board concludes that the proposal of the carriers for a reduction of the wages of railway labor should not be pressed, and recommends that the carriers withdraw and cancel the notices which would put such a reduction into operation as of December 1, 1938."

Labor's Case Unbreakable

The first and third points scored by the board are of interest to every worker. Rail wages are not high compared to other wages in comparable industries, and a railroad wage reduction would go contrary to the general trend of wages. And how anti-labor bosses in every industry would welcome this example from the railroads!

President Roosevelt has made it informally but plainly clear that he agrees with the emergency board, and that the railroad officials should drop their wage cut plans. He is reported as pointing out to J. J. Pelley, president of the Association of American Railroads, that some of the railroads

will need assistance which wage cuts will not bring.

In a conference with George M. Harrison, chairman of the Railway Labor Executives' Association, President Roosevelt repeated his urging that labor and management would co-operate in putting the weak roads on their feet, and Harrison promptly promised that co-operation.

It is clear that the railroad labor champions made an utterly unbreakable case. They held from the first that the wage cut would not solve the railroad problem, and that this problem was due to past financial misdeeds and could be solved only by drastic revision of financial railroad practices. They divided the railroads into three classes; those in receivership or trusteeship, those which Chairman Splawn of the I.C.C. called "problem roads," and solvent roads.

Management Claim Answered

The railroad management claimed that the wage cut would save \$250,000,000 a year. Taking this claim for a moment, railroad labor answered:

That \$60,200,000, or 24.1 per cent of the total, would go to the roads now frankly bankrupt.

That about \$48,150,000 would go to the "problem roads," not yet bankrupt but are more than \$100,000,000 behind meeting their fixed charges. These would get 19.3 per cent of the wage cut.

Strong Roads Helped Most

All the rest, \$141,650,000, would go to the roads which are not bankrupt, nor likely to become so. In plain words; only 43.4 per cent of the slash in wages would help the roads which need help, while 56.6 per cent would go to roads which have no right to ask for such drastic aid.

High School Forum

"Should Married Women Be Employed?" That moot question, which has filled so many printed columns in recent years, will be presented in the form of a symposium and open discussion at James Lick Junior High School Forum, Tuesday evening, November 15.

News reels of current events will be shown Wednesday night at Redding Elementary School Forum.

Dr. Ralph Reynolds, San Francisco physician and world traveler, will be guest speaker at Edison Elementary School Forum Thursday evening. Dr. Reynolds' subject, "San Francisco's Resources for Child Welfare," will be the sixth and final talk in a series on child welfare.

"Alaska's Silver Millions," a sound motion picture with the voice of Father Bernard Hubbard, will be presented Friday evening at Sherman Elementary School by Kenneth I. Chisholm, explorer and camera man who accompanied Father Hubbard on his expeditions.

All evening school forums begin at 8 p. m.

Union-Labeled Goods For Christmas Buying

A call to every trade union member in the nation to demand the union label on all Christmas gifts this year was issued by I. M. Ornburn, secretary-treasurer of the Union Label Trades Department, American Federation of Labor, upon his return to Washington from the Houston A. F. of L. convention.

A union label campaign has already been started among the merchants in every city to stock up with union-made goods, the department announces. A more intensive drive will be made during December, when the retail sales are greater than at any other time in the year.

While members of labor unions continually urge the consuming public to buy union label products, Ornburn said:

"The Union Label Trades Department is especially desirous of building up union label trade during the holiday shopping season. Many practical and useful gifts can be purchased that are made under union conditions. The merchandise upon which the union label is displayed is of the highest quality and made by the most skilled workers in industry." In conclusion, he said:

"Let's put the open shops and sweatshops out of business by buying only union label Christmas gifts."

In Other Words, "Who Cares?"

I do not care in the slightest whether Sir Francis wrote the Shakespeare dramas any more than I care if Shakespeare was the author of "Novum Organum." In the language of Shakespeare—"The play's the thing." We have the work, and quibbling about the authorship can neither add to nor detract from its value. If the erudite grave-diggers prove that Bacon wrote the plays, about all that will have been accomplished is to put about two-thirds of the inhabitants of the hamlet of Stratford on the dole.—E. W. K., in "Alaska Weekly."



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Occasion for Rejoicing

The results of last Tuesday's election, as shown by partial returns, show that while labor did not reach all of its objectives it has many things to be thankful for. For one thing, it has been learned that while labor can not always agree on candidates, it finds reason for unity in fighting vicious legislative measures.

Proposition No. 1 on Tuesday's ballot, presented by the persistent enemies of organized labor, appears to have been defeated by an overwhelming vote. This in itself constitutes a victory for labor which offsets any disappointment that may have been caused by the defeat of some candidates favorable to labor's cause.

The chambers of commerce, the merchants and manufacturers' associations and the Associated Farmers, all labor-hating organizations, assisted by reactionary newspapers and by the "neutrality" of other publications, exerted tremendous pressure to have the vicious and un-American anti-labor measure enacted into law. The means used to enlist votes for the measure were so unfair and unjust that it is probable that they themselves made many votes against the proposition. To begin with, the measure was fraudulently designated on the ballot as a "labor" initiative. This, of course, was intended to mislead voters. The political advertising also was purposely misleading and untruthful.

However, the energetic committees in charge of the campaign against Proposition No. 1 were equal to the occasion, and left no stone unturned in their efforts to refute the claims of its proponents and to reveal it in its true light. They were assisted by individuals and organizations who, though not connected with the labor movement, saw the danger to all classes of citizens should the measure be adopted.

The trade unions and their members owe a debt of gratitude to all these workers, and a roll of honor containing the names of all who constituted these working committees should be made public.

Among the surprises of the election was the marvelous vote against Proposition No. 1 in the former anti-labor city of Los Angeles, where the measure originated.

Another thing for which labor may rejoice is that the anti-labor candidate for United States senator, Bancroft, went down to defeat. Generally the successful candidates were favorable to labor.

The first representative gathering of the Committee for Industrial Organization will be held at Pittsburgh, Penn., next Monday. It is significant that C. I. O. writers, while ostensibly urging "unity," openly state that "it will be a constitutional convention for setting up a permanent rival labor movement to the A. F. of L."

Speaking of "Unity"!

Leaders in the C. I. O. secession movement, from John L. Lewis down, have had a great deal to say about their anxiety to have "unity" in the labor movement. However, their words and actions belie their claimed attitude.

Addressing an organization meeting of dock workers in New Orleans recently, Harry Bridges, the West Coast C. I. O. director, had this to say in behalf of his brand of "unity":

"When Lewis told Green that he would resign if Green would, in order to bring the rank and file of both the C. I. O. and the A. F. of L. together and stop this fight between the two labor groups, he meant it. What was Green's answer? He said he would leave his presidency to the rank and file. That is a subterfuge and an evasion! The rank and file of the A. F. of L. have never had the opportunity to vote on who should be president and if they did it is certain that Willie Green wouldn't be elected.

"Labor racketeers, such as the A. F. of L. employ, are a blight on the labor movement generally. Free yourselves of these racketeers and vote for the C. I. O. You will have the opportunity under the C. I. O. to be fair, honest and just and to deal with the employers on an equal basis. We are here permanently and to stay."

A few days after this outburst the A. F. of L. convention at Houston re-elected Green president by unanimous vote of delegates chosen by their various unions to represent them at Houston. This is the answer to the statement that "the rank and file" of the A. F. of L. have never had the opportunity to vote on who should be president.

On the other hand, although the C. I. O. has been in existence for three years, it has held no election, and its head, John L. Lewis, was self-chosen. He in turn chose Bridges and other "officials" of the C. I. O.

"Labor racketeers," said Bridges, "such as the A. F. of L. employs, are a blight on the labor movement generally." This is rather strong language for a man who is preaching "unity" to use, and especially by a man who spent so many years outside the organized labor movement.

Labor Is Proved Right

The I. C. C. has approved a plan for remodeling \$434,333,750 of the divers and sundry debts of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad. Interest charges are to be cut \$11,116,225 per year on these debts, and a considerable sum in annual charges on debts of subsidiaries. The holders of these notes and bonds are yet to be heard from; and nothing is done about the debt of \$72,771,578 which the B. & O. owes to the Reconstruction Finance Corporation. And by this juggling, it is hoped to stave off a reorganization under the bankruptcy statute.

The scheme cuts the interest charges, but it makes only a trifling change in the weight of the debt. Again and again in the involved, intricate, almost ununderstandable "plan," reference is made to fifty-year bonds. Who, fifty years ago, or even ten years ago, knew anything worth mentioning about what would happen to the B. & O. by this time? No one. Then why substitute one series of bad guesses for another?

The mere announcement proves that railroad workers were right in insisting that a 15 per cent wage cut would not get the railroads out of the hole. All organized labor, and the President, and his emergency board were right, too.

"The Open Door"

For twenty years or more American statesmen have insisted on the "open door in China." The phrase, indeed, was invented away back in the Boxer rebellion days, when our secretary of state used it to head off the partition of China. It has been a basic principle of American diplomacy. But where is the open door now?

There isn't any. Japan has formally closed it.

Japan, a group of islands of less than 150,000 square miles and perhaps 70,000,000 people, announces herself as the ruler, master, dictator of a region more than half as large as the United States, with 400,000,000 people. All trade of other peoples with China is to be controlled by Japan—which means that there won't be any worth mentioning.

Holds Supreme Court Responsible

Secretary of Labor Perkins has pointed out that radical deportation cases have been held up solely because of the failure thus far of the United States Supreme Court to pass on the question, "Are aliens deportable merely because of membership in the Communist party?"

She had been officially advised, she said, by legal experts both in her department and in the Department of Justice not to press further proceedings against aliens charged with Communist party membership until the Supreme Court had made a decision in the Strecker case, now before it.

The principle involved, she said, is that litigation should not be multiplied until a test case has gone to its decision.

A Plain Warning

Pointing out that the criminal acts of Richard Whitney, former president of the New York Stock Exchange, had continued for twelve years, and that though many of his associates knew of his rascality none of them gave him away, the Securities and Exchange Commission report sums up thus:

"The attitude that the Stock Exchange was more of a private club than a public institution, and that its responsibilities were to its members rather than to the nation of investors which it served, has had a long history. It was a well-intrenched customary attitude. But although it can thus be explained, it can not be permitted to continue."

George M. Harrison

George McGregor Harrison, chairman of the Railway Labor Executives' Association, president of the Brotherhood of Railway and Steamship Clerks, etc., is very much in the news just now. He was general-in-chief of railroad labor in the fight against a wage cut; and every point he made in that struggle was admitted to be true by the President's Emergency Fact-Finding Board.

When you consider that he was opposed at every point by railroad lawyers and managers, that is a large and important victory.

If George had printed his middle name in full the railroad managers might have been prepared. "McGregor" is probably the fightin'est name of the fighting Scotch; and they have all been hard to handle. Robbie Burns boasts that

"Bring a Scotsman frae his hill. . . .
Say 'there's the foe!'

He has no thought save how to kill
Two at a blow."

In this case Harrison had nothing to kill but wrongful claims, and he certainly slaughtered them.

He was born in Missouri in 1891, son of a railroad watchman. He got some kind of railroad work when he was 12; and the chances are that the union rules were waived to let him join the Brotherhood before he was 21. Anyway, he was chairman of his lodge at 27; and went right on up. His schooling was mainly in night schools; and he is a Ph. D. from the University of Hard Knocks. He was named by the President to one of the committees to gather material for the Social Security Act.

He is big, husky, wide-shouldered, hard-fisted, physically and mentally. And he has made these qualities count.

Awakening of Labor

By C. W. PILGRIM, Cooks' Union No. 44

Well, the elections are over, and at this time (7 a. m. Wednesday), it appears as if we have given Proposition No. 1 a good beating. However, San Francisco has disappointed us a little. With all the labor vote there is in this city we ought to have obtained a bigger majority against the measure than we did; on the other side of the scale there is plenty to our credit that we can be pleased about.

Los Angeles, where we were not sure of what was going to happen, turned out a big majority against this measure, and the small country districts gave us a bigger vote than we expected. This shows that Los Angeles, having had a taste of what this sort of a law can do for the people, because they had a similar one slipped over on them a short time ago by means of a charter amendment, concluded that what was bad for them locally would be bad for the rest of the people of the state. The country vote also shows us that the real dirt farmers are awakening to the fact that organized labor is not their enemy, as the big fellows have had them believing, but is really the only friend that they have in the world.

Another thing to congratulate ourselves about is the beating given to Bancroft, the nominee of the so-called Associated Farmers. It was the gang who backed Bancroft who were responsible for Proposition No. 1, and apparently the voters concluded that such fascist-minded people have no business representing them; so they sent him back home to continue with his farming.

There is a danger that labor, satisfied with the way things have gone, will go off and take a sleep until the bosses spring another fast one on them. This is something that must not be allowed to happen, for the nazis don't sleep; neither do the fascists. They get in their best licks when the people's backs are toward them, as we can see by what has happened over in Europe. This election has cost us plenty, both in time, energy and money. Two years from now there will be another election; then we must be ready to spring a surprise on these fascists instead of letting them spring another one on labor. Next election we have got to have some propositions on the ballot that will make Bancroft and his associates sit up and rub their eyes, and they must not be wild-eyed schemes, but real laws that will be of real benefit to the people of this country.

The workers are awaking—let us wake them up some more. It is about time to move. All the shyster lawyers and wise guys have had a go at trying to pull this country out of the hole that it has tumbled into, with but very little success. Let us, the workers, take a go at this job. We can not do worse than what all these so-called clever people have accomplished!

Comment on World Events

(I. L. N. S.)

Adolf Hitler has offered to France and Britain a no-war treaty for from ten to twenty-five years. Chamberlain seems to be considering the idea with favor, though in France even the tories are balking at it.

It is clear that neither France nor Britain will get anything from such a treaty, except a doubtful guarantee of a peace which no civilized government of Germany would break. Hitler, on the other hand, will get a free hand to carry out his long-held plan of Middle Europe. Berlin will be—if Hitler can make it so—the real capital not only of an enlarged Germany, but of Poland, Hungary, all the Balkan states, and as much of western Russia as can be conquered.

Draw a line on the map of Europe from the North Sea at the border between the Netherlands and Germany to the Mediterranean at the border between Italy and France. Draw another line

from the eastern end of the Baltic Sea to the middle of the Black Sea. Hitler, avowedly and openly, means to rule everything between those lines, and he is trying to stave off trouble in western Europe until this empire is established.

* * *

It makes no difference whether anyone in any other country believes he can do this. He believes it—he put it in his book, "Mein Kampf"; and no official in Germany is allowed to believe anything else—witness the retirement of German generals who opposed the raids on Austria and Czechoslovakia. Believing this, he is likely to try it, whether France and Britain agree to stand off or not.

Look now at a larger map, a map of the Eastern Hemisphere, and see if you can imagine how Britain and France can sign up to allow this, or Italy can consent to be a party to it.

Hitler as lord of Middle Europe can smash or capture the Suez Canal whenever he wishes. He is right across the track to British India, with an easy march to the Red Sea and the Persian Gulf. He is much closer to India, South Africa, Australia and New Zealand than Britain is. He can block Italy from Ethiopia with a single bomb at Suez, and crush France by sheer numbers.

Hitler believes he can do these things; and has made no small progress in doing them. Keep that in mind in reading foreign news.

* * *

The British National Council of Labor, the joint body of the Trades Union Congress, Labor party and Parliamentary Labor party, has passed a resolution which reminds the governments which gave their agreement to the cession of the Sudeten German districts of their moral duty to protect the Czechoslovakian people against acts of tyranny, against spoliation and injustice. The resolution also demands the release from German prisons of the political prisoners and hostages from the Sudeten German districts.

The National Council of Labor has also made an immediate start on the practical work of helping those who are paying for the Munich agreement. A collection has been opened, to which all sections of the population are urged to contribute. The money is being sent to the Czechoslovakian Relief Fund of the International Federation of Trade Unions.

Next time radio artists want to start a thrill, let them try Sinbad the Sailor and his roc.

A Spy Around the Corner

("Journal of Labor," Atlanta, Ga.)

There is a spy around the corner, if we may judge by what we read in the papers. Evidently, we shall all have to take up the practice of looking under the bed every night just to make sure that there is no spy lurking there. The business of spying is not new. Each nation considers it a part of its appointed task to find out just what is going on in every other nation. Especially when it comes to the question of military and naval activities. Not only so, but industry itself is infested with spies. One business is trying to keep track of what its competitor is doing. The same practice prevails in sports, we understand.

The fact that such is going on constantly does not prevent the recurrence of those occasions when the country becomes greatly excited. We are made to feel that a vast hoard of spies have suddenly descended upon us. Yet perhaps it is well that we are made conscious of such possibilities. Else we would cease to be vigilant and allow spies to work unmolested.

Spying brings out some rather interesting peculiarities in people. If I spy on another nation and turn over to my own country the secrets I discover I am a patriot and worthy of the highest acclaim of my countrymen. But if the other country discovers me I am of all people the most despicable and death becomes to me too merciful.

Statue of Liberty Anniversary

October 28, 1938, marked the fifty-second anniversary of the dedication of the Statue of Liberty in New York Harbor by President Grover Cleveland. The 152-foot colossus was France's gift to the United States and was sent by the French people in token of their co-operation in America's war for independence from the British crown.

The idea of the Statue of Liberty was inspired and forwarded by Victor Hugo, French poet and novelist, and was designed by the young sculptor Auguste Bartholdi. Inscribed on the base of the statue are five lines from a poem by an American poet of Spanish-Jewish parentage, Emma Lazarus, which reads:

"Give me your tired, your poor,
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore;
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed to me;
I lift my lamp beside the golden door."

Why Communism Backs the 'New Deal'

By EARL BROWDER

From an address by the General Secretary of the Communist party scheduled to have been delivered in a New York athletic park September 15 but canceled on account of wet grounds.

Today the old political flags and names are meaningless. Cutting across all the old labels and groupings and parties, there emerge the outlines of two new parties which embrace the entire population in two new camps. There is the New Deal party and there is the Anti-New Deal party. These are the only real national mass parties in the United States at this moment.

Victory for the New Deal party means keeping our country on the path of a progressive and democratic development. Victory for the Anti-New Deal party means going back to Hoover and the Hoovervilles under a regime that would never give us another chance for a New Deal through constitutional processes.

That is why the Communist party clearly and without hesitation declares its support of the New Deal party and policy, proposes and works for the unity of the majority of the people behind a single progressive candidate for each electoral office, subordinates itself and its own particular ideas to the necessity for this broadest unity of the majority of the people.

In the final balloting in November the American people will be standing at an historical crossroads, choosing their course for many years to come. We will be deciding the immediate fate of our country. And the force of the United States may easily become that factor which determines the fate of the entire world.—"America's Future."

Unemployment Benefits Paid During September

Payment of \$41,500,000 in unemployment benefits during September was announced by the Social Security Board this week. The board also reported a continued decline in the volume of initial claims received and amount of benefits paid.

The number of initial claims received from workers in states for which comparable data were available has decreased in September for the third consecutive month, the reduction being nearly 24 per cent, as compared with 30 per cent in August and close to 20 per cent in July. At the same time a decrease in the amount of benefits paid during September was reported by twenty-two of the twenty-eight states in which benefits were payable in August, making a drop of nearly six million dollars in all.

Exclusive of New York state, however, which alone accounted for approximately \$4,300,000 of this decrease, the decline for the remaining states was relatively small—4.4 per cent less than in August. Special reports from several states indicate that exhaustion of wage credits was an influential factor in the decline of benefit payments, although re-employment of workers was a contributing cause.

Payments Increase in California

In the twenty-two states which reported a smaller amount of benefits paid during September, the decreases ranged from 4.9 per cent in Indiana to 43.3 per cent in Virginia. In addition to Virginia, the fifteen states showing decreases of 20 per cent or more were: Alabama, Connecticut, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New York, North Carolina, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Utah and West Virginia.

Six states, on the other hand, reported increases in the amount of benefits paid. These were Cali-

fornia, Iowa, Louisiana, Michigan, South Carolina and Wisconsin. California indicated that reductions in the backlog of compensable claims were mainly responsible for the increase. In Wisconsin the average weekly payment was larger than in the preceding month. Louisiana reported its increase due to changes in its law which not only increased the maximum amount of benefits payable from \$15 to \$18 but also extended their maximum duration from fifteen to eighteen weeks. The increases in Iowa, Michigan and South Carolina, in which benefits were first payable July, 1938, reflected the usual experience of states in the initial period of their benefit program. Benefit payments usually reach a peak in the third month of initial operation, due to meeting obligations for compensable unemployment which accrued during the first two months of intensive claims operations.

Initial Claims Show Decrease

Initial claims for benefits received from workers in September declined in all but six states and ranged from a drop of 2.1 per cent in California to 54.1 per cent in South Carolina. In only three states of the twenty-two states reporting decreases were the declines less than 10 per cent. Reductions of 40 per cent or more were reported by Indiana, Maryland, Michigan, Mississippi, South Carolina and Wisconsin. Minnesota and all of the New England States except Connecticut, however, showed increases in initial claims. Part of the increase in New England may have been due to the shut-downs resulting from the floods in that area in the latter part of September.

The average payment for total unemployment in the twenty-two states for which data are available was \$11.56, and ranged from \$5.61 in Mississippi to \$13.57 in Michigan. For partial unemployment, the average payment in the fifteen states for which data are available was \$5.24, and ranged from \$3.73 in South Carolina to \$8.49 in Utah.

CONSUMERS PAY WAGE BILL

Tipping, once characterized by Mrs. Roosevelt as "a beautiful way out for employers who won't pay a living wage," would be abolished by law under the terms of a resolution introduced to the New York State Federation of Labor by Hotel and Club Employees, Local 6, New York City. William Randolph of that union estimates that \$200,000,000 a year is given out in tips, 60 per cent of which goes to more than 375,000 waiters and waitresses in the country. In other words, the consumer is paying about \$320 a year on the wage of each of these employees. Since the average wage, tips included, is roughly \$11 to \$12 a week, Randolph seems justified in concluding that the tipping system is a means for an employer to get consumers to pay more than half of his wage bill.

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Armour & Company Sign Union Shop Agreement

A union shop agreement affecting 800 employees of the New York Dressed Butchers Company, an affiliate of Armour & Co., one of the country's largest meat packers, was concluded in New York in time to avert a threatened strike. The agreement is the first to be signed by Armour & Co.

Concluding the negotiations were Joseph Belsky, vice-president of the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen of North America in the Eastern states area, representing Local Union No. 334, and Harry Green, National Labor Relations representative of Armour & Co., who flew from the company's main office in Chicago to take part in the negotiations.

The signed agreement provides for recognition of the union as the sole bargaining agent for all employees of the company except those serving in managerial or supervisory positions. Working hours per week will be reduced from forty-eight to forty. Although there will be no actual increase in pay, the reduced working schedule represents a gain in salary for the plant's eight hundred employees, who will hereafter work fewer hours at the same wage they received before.

Included in the terms of the agreement are provisions for seven recognized holidays during the year with full pay, and vacations with full pay for employees who have been more than two years on the payroll.

Immediate plans of the union, as announced by Belsky, provide for a drive to organize the other packing concerns operating in New York—Wilson & Co. and Swift & Co.

Employment Gains Are Reported In Various Industrial Fields

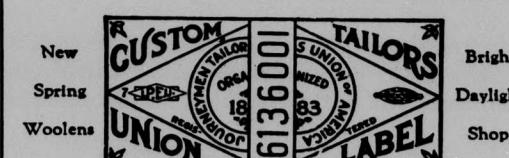
Nearly 600,000 men and women went back to their jobs throughout the nation in September, the biggest employment gain in any month since the business slump started a year ago, the American Federation of Labor estimates in its monthly employment report, based on figures from the federal government and other reliable sources.

Reports from local A. F. of L. unions indicate that employment increased still further in October. Weighted figures show that unemployment decreased from 14 per cent of the union membership to 13.5 per cent in the first part of October, the Federation reports.

"In spite of these gains, however," the Federation comments, "unemployment is still at a very high level. Our estimate shows 10,539,000 off of work in September, and, although the October gains have reduced this figure somewhat, there are probably more than 10,000,000 still out of work."

The Federation says that employment gains in September were considerably larger than the usual seasonal gain, which it holds is further evidence that business recovery is under way again. Gains have been spread over nearly all fields of industrial activity.

Nazi Germany offers a non-aggression pact to France. "Will you walk into my parlor?" said the spider to the fly.



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Unemployment Payments For Month of September

Dividends paid California workers and business men on their investment in the Unemployment Trust Fund amounted to \$2,442,545.20 during the month of September, according to announcement made by Carl L. Hyde, executive director of the State Department of Employment.

Hyde said that if unemployment insurance payments made in September were computed as interest on total contributions to the fund the rate of return would approximate more than 20 per cent per year.

"California," said Hyde, "is extremely fortunate in having the strongest reserve of any state in the Union in the Unemployment Trust Fund."

"While other states continue to dip heavily into their reserve funds to meet demands of the unemployed for earned insurance, business conditions in California, as indicated by stable contributions to the fund, remain at excellent levels."

"On the other hand, California business secures an excellent return on its investment in the fund through payments of unemployment insurance and continues to build against the time contributions may be lowered materially through merit rating. Surveys reveal that 98 per cent of these payments are used in the purchase of food, clothing, rent, public utilities, medical and personal services."

The report said 250,444 benefit checks had been issued to insured workers during September, with the total amount of checks written since the first of the year numbering 1,778,383 for a total of \$16,962,510.93.

Los Angeles County residents received 121,719 of the September checks, or \$1,200,094.88 of the total paid, the report said.

San Francisco County reports indicated 29,888 checks paid during September, for a total of \$293,013.18.

NEW CONTRACT FOR CANDY WORKERS

The Candy and Confectionery Workers' branch of Bakers' Union No. 24 has completed agreements effective until 1940 with the Western Candy Manufacturing Association and independent dealers, according to David W. Dunham, union secretary. The contracts, he said, affect 650 workers and provide minimum wages of from 35 cents to 50 cents an hour for women and 45 cents to 80 cents for men.

P.W.A. WORKERS RE-EMPLOYED

J. W. Bournier, acting regional director of the P.W.A., has announced that about 9000 formerly unemployed workers have been re-employed on the sites of the various P.W.A. projects now being constructed in California, Arizona, Utah and Nevada, composing this Far Western Region.

A FUTURE BUSINESS MAN

Old Gentleman—You're an honest boy, but it was a \$10 bill I dropped, not ten ones. Youngster—I know, mister, but the last time I found a \$10 bill the man didn't have any change.—"Parents' Magazine."

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FLEEING NAZI TERROR

Sixty-three German and Austrian Jews were in Vancouver, B. C., last week awaiting the departure of the liner Aorangi for Australia and New Zealand. Refugees from Nazi terror, the sixty-three hope to make a new start as settlers.

FARMERS AS STRIKEBREAKERS

Twenty-five farmers and farm-hands are reported to have gone to work on the Contra Costa conduit of the Central Valley Water Project to replace A. F. of L. workers on strike. Contractors meanwhile conferred with officials of the C. I. O. Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers' Union on a plan whereby work on the entire project would be turned over to C. I. O. unions. Twenty-five C. I. O. miners previously were hired to work on a tunnel over the protests of the A. F. of L.

DEATH OF B. C. VLADECK

B. Charney Vladeck, American Labor party leader and for twenty years manager of the Jewish "Daily Forward," labor and socialist organ, died in New York on October 30 following a short illness, from coronary thrombosis. He was 52. Born in Russia, Vladeck was identified with the revolutionary movement in his early manhood and was jailed and narrowly escaped being exiled to Siberia by the czar's police. He came to this country in 1908.

City's Five-Day Week

Awaiting the signature of Mayor Rossi is an ordinance permitting city department heads to institute the five-day-week in offices where practical.

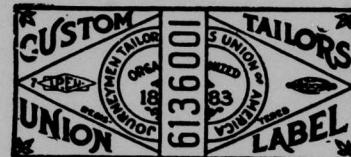
The legislation, unanimously enacted by the Board of Supervisors, will affect a maximum of 1500 workers, according to the Federation of Municipal Employees, which sponsored the ordinance.

Under the plan advanced by the Federation and agreed to by a majority of the department heads, city offices will be manned by skeleton crews on Saturday mornings.

Employees given the Saturday half-holiday will work longer hours the first five days of the week. Department heads are prohibited from increasing employments or decreasing service as a result of the ordinance which becomes effective thirty days after signing by the mayor.

It takes money to enforce even a wage-hour law. That is why some congressmen, who did not care to vote against its passage, managed to leave it short of cash.

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P. G. & E. Found Guilty Of Wagner Act Violation

The Pacific Gas and Electric Company has been held guilty of Wagner Act violation in an intermediate National Labor Relations Board report by Trial Examiner John Lindsay.

It was ruled the company favored the independent California Gas and Electric Employees' Union and discriminated against the C. I. O. Utility Workers' Organizing Committee.

The trial examiner recommended that P. G. & E. post "cease and desist" notices within thirty days to the effect that it would not interfere with the rights of its employees to organize in a union of their own choosing.

The company was given ten days in which to advise Mrs. Alice M. Rosseter, regional N.L.R.B. director, of compliance, or file exceptions to the proposed order.

The ruling directly applied to more than 6000 employees in the physical or field forces of P. G. & E.

The C. I. O. United Electrical Radio and Machine Workers of America—since known as the U. W. O. C.—claimed to represent a majority of the workers. The independent union waged a counter fight and won a Labor Board vote by about a 3-to-2 margin. C. I. O. then charged P. G. & E. had coerced employees into voting for the "company union."

The examiner refused to dismiss the charges, as moved by P. G. & E. and the California union. He held that in more than a score of incidents it was proved that P. G. & E. executives favored the independent union.

"MURDER IN THE CATHEDRAL"

Most important of all plays done by the San Francisco-Oakland Federal Theater will open at the Alcazar Monday, November 14, when T. S. Eliot's poetic tragedy, "Murder in the Cathedral," will have its San Francisco premiere. "Having Wonderful Time," the Arthur Kober prize-winning comedy of life in an Eastern mountain summer resort, closes Saturday night after a highly successful run at the Alcazar.

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By GEO. S. HOLLIS

President Typographical Union No. 21

The two following clippings from the Oakland "Tribune" of October 16 and 30 are submitted by George E. Mitchell, Jr., with the comment that "the story is of interest to our craft; not only will it bring up recollections from many of the oldsters, but will be of interest to the younger element":

Sutter Centennial.—The old-time printer, "one who can do a good job of setting type by hand and can supervise the use of an ancient Washington handpress," will come into his own again next year when Sacramento goes back to the pre-gold period and celebrates the Centennial of Sutter. The printer, when the Advertising and Sales Club of Sacramento finds him, will be given the job of issuing the exposition paper. He must have started his printing experience at least fifty years ago and will be paid for the job with money and also with the title "King of the Old-Time Printers." They are going to call the show, which harks to the day in 1839 when Sutter arrived to establish his New Helvetia, the Sacramento-Golden Empire Centennial, and some large, even amazing plans, are being made. There is a search on, not only for a printer, but for persons who may be said to resemble famous figures who lived hereabouts in the days of gold and before. For instance, there will be a "Lola Montez" and a "Lotta Crabtree" and doubtless some spirited competition among those who would enact the roles. As, according to tradition, both of these girls smoked cigars, it may be some of the aspirants will soon go into what at first will be a painful rehearsal, though there is more than a little chance this talk is raised for publicity values and the requirement will be waived. Certainly the winners will have to be "good dancers and singers," with "personality of the temperament type—the type capable of 'stopping the show.'"

Old-Time Printers.—Sacramento's search for an "old-time printer" to operate a Washington hand press, set type by hand and get out a paper for the Sutter Centennial is unearthing many who have views and memories on the subject. W. P. Callahan of Oakland writes me: "In 'The Knave' section of October 16 I was particularly interested in the article headed, 'Sutter Centennial.' How well I know that old-time printer—that ancient Washington hand press! I believe there are but few people now living in California that know that old press better than I do, and there can be

but one Washington hand press—of which you write. That was the first printing press of early California history brought around Cape Horn during the gold-rush days. The San Francisco 'Chronicle' was first printed on that press, and in later years the 'Placer County Herald' at Auburn, Calif. James Felcher was then editor of the 'Placer County Herald.' Now it so happens that in 1886 I was 'printer's devil' on the 'Placer County Herald,' and as such it was part of my work to ink that press. It is my belief that the one man wanted to issue the Sutter Centennial Exposition papers is Sam Hilderbrandt of Auburn, Calif., who in those early days was both foreman and pressman for that paper. If he can not be found, then I think, providing, of course, that I can qualify, that I may be runner-up for the job, for in those days as a kid I used to believe myself to be a pretty good typesetter. Although I have not set type for about fifty years, I still believe that I can learn my cases over again."

Affiliates of San Francisco Typographical Union No. 21 are extending their sympathy to their fellow member, Frank G. Crowhurst, whose beloved wife, Bessie H. Crowhurst, passed away November 7 at Manor, Marin County. Mrs. Crowhurst was a native of Philadelphia. She was the mother of Bette Green, daughter of Mrs. Clara Bittenbender of Berkeley, and sister of Wilson D. and John H. Cummings of Philadelphia. Following services at an Oakland mortuary last Wednesday her body was laid to rest in Mountain View Cemetery. Mr. Crowhurst is a member of the Phillips & Van Orden sales staff.

Softball Notes

A fast San Francisco Typographical Union team in the industrial night league and another fast team in the Sunday morning league—these are the prospects for next spring.

The softball season is finished for this year, and to those who have been following our boys in their weekly games, one point looms out big. That point is that the Typographical Union can have as fast and good a team as any team in San Francisco.

Our union should be proud of its softball team, which has just completed its first season of organized activity. To the boys who have been out there on the field every week goes the credit for placing Local 21 in some of the stiffest competition in the bay area.

The perspective for next spring is exceedingly bright. Along with the old hands who have been playing all through the season, many new faces will be out on the diamond when softball opens up again. Several players who are now with hard ball teams have signified their intentions of playing with the union softball teams.

Manager Blackford wishes to call attention of players to the fact that all suits must be turned in immediately. "Take them to headquarters and leave them with your name and address so that you may be credited with turning in your suit," said Blackford.

Members of our team have been invited to practice with the Fantail Club and with the California Cable boys, who hold practice games every Tuesday morning at 10 o'clock at the Big Rec.

Mailer Notes

By LEROY C. SMITH

Munro Roberts, secretary-treasurer of the M. T. D. U., states: "When the dissension within our ranks grew to a division . . . the executive council of the I. T. U., as a 'courtesy' to the unions who had withdrawn from the M. T. D. U., and at their request, agreed to decide matters solely affecting their members." The true facts concerning decisions by the executive council of the I. T. U. in mailer cases were based on I. T. U. laws and the facts and evidence as presented to the executive council of the I. T. U. No clearer picture has been given of that fact than that of the case of Williams vs. New York Mailers' Union, in which the executive council of the I. T. U. handed down a decision in favor of Williams. The latter was restored to membership in the New York union and granted some \$800 back pay for having been deprived of a regular situation on a New York daily newspaper. In its review of the case of Williams vs. the New York union the executive council of the I. T. U. found violation of local laws of the New York union and M. T. D. U. laws by the executive council of the M. T. D. U., all of which was concurred in by the convention of the M. T. D. U.

Roberts was secretary-treasurer of the M. T. D. U. during that time. In the face of the above facts, Roberts, as president of the M. T. D. U., in his report to the Birmingham convention, stated: "It (M. T. D. U.) has stood as the protector, not only of its own members, but as the protector of every mailer member and future mailer member of the I. T. U." He further says: "History shows that mailers can settle their differences within their own organization."

There is something ludicrous in his statements relative to the matter, for the "outlaw" and I. T. U. mailer membership now outnumber the mailer membership of the M. T. D. U. On another occasion Roberts stated that "not much could be accomplished on dues to the M. T. D. U. of 25 cents per member per month." Which would give the M. T. D. U. treasury an income of about \$500 monthly. He seeks to have all mailers affiliate with the M. T. D. U.—probably with an eye on increasing M. T. D. U. receipts. Increased revenue pouring into the M. T. D. U. treasury would probably find M. T. D. U. officers continuing to "run true to form," that is, expending the larger portion of M. T. D. U. funds for "services and other expenses," with no benefits accruing therefrom to dues-paying membership.

Proposed new M. T. D. U. laws, drafted by Roberts, which were jammed through the "grist mill" at the Birmingham convention in whirlwind fashion, may be offered as an inducement for mailers to affiliate with the M. T. D. U. Though chapel chairmen and members of "outlaw" unions were sent copies of these proposed laws, the membership of the M. T. D. U. will have to be contented by having copies of them "distributed through chapel chairmen and officers of local unions, because," Mr. Roberts says, "the cost of supplying each member with a copy is prohibitive." But for what reason is not stated. Then how can it be expected members can intelligently vote on laws which they are presumed to be governed by without being furnished a copy of same in ample time to study the hodge-podge of proposed laws presented them by their secretary-treasurer? The I. T. U. laws are paramount. The M. T. D. U. laws were for the most part "dead letters," the officers themselves frequently ignoring them. In the majority of cases the executive council in the M. T. D. U. seemed to "interpret" those laws in favor of the "faithful followers" of the oligarchy of the M. T. D. U., apparently to "freeze out" the opposition of the belligerent minority which finally climaxed in unions seceding from the M. T. D. U. The proposed new laws of that organization are but a waste of time.

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Syphilis and the Worker

By W. M. DICKIE, M. D.

Director State Department of Public Health

Editor's Note—This is the second of a series of six articles. Others will appear in later issues of this paper. These articles are written for union labor publications not because it is thought that venereal diseases are more prevalent among workers than among other groups but because syphilis presents certain problems to wage earners since treatments must be continued over a long period of time and, when the disease is untreated, disability frequently is the result.

During the twelve months ending June, 1938, 22,588 cases of syphilis were brought under treatment in California, according to reports received from clinics and private physicians. Only 6521 patients were reported to have come under medical care during the early stages of the disease, when it is most easily cured.

Yet the diagnosis of syphilis is certain. During the early weeks of infection the germ causing the disease, the spirochete, can be found by microscopic examination. Soon after the spirochete enters the blood stream, and throughout the duration of the disease, its presence can be determined by standard blood tests performed in the laboratory. Whenever syphilis is indicated by microscopic examination or blood tests, physical examination of the patient by a competent physician is required to complete the diagnosis.

Since diagnosis is such a simple thing, why do so many persons wait until the disease is far advanced before seeking medical treatment?

Many persons who have syphilis do not know they are infected. Ignorance of the symptoms of the disease, the disappearance of the outward signs soon after infection, the mildness of symptoms in many cases, and the economic situation of the patient are contributing factors.

The state Department of Public Health is trying in every possible way to inform the public of the causes, symptoms and treatment of syphilis so that people will avoid infection or, if it occurs, will recognize the signs and seek diagnosis and treatment.

When symptoms are so mild as not to be readily recognized as those of a grave disease the economic factor may be a barrier in seeking diagnosis. The patient who does not have much money will not go to a physician when he has what he thinks is a skin rash that disappears after a few weeks. To make diagnosis easily available to all, the State Department of Public Health has increased the facilities of the state and local health department laboratories. Tests are performed in the state laboratory without charge on all specimens of blood submitted by clinics and physicians for initial diagnosis. All subsequent tests are made without charge on all specimens from medically indigent patients.

There were 220,488 free tests for syphilis made in the state laboratory between July 1, 1936, and June 30, 1938. The monthly total of blood specimens tested has risen during that period from 3416 to 8345.

The next article will deal with the treatment of syphilis. For further information write the State Department of Public Health, Bureau of Venereal Diseases, State Building, San Francisco.

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Journalism, Short Story Writing In San Francisco Public Schools

That the urge to write is by no means limited to any certain age group is evidenced by young and old adults who attend free classes in journalism and short story writing in the adult centers of the San Francisco Public Schools. Recent high school graduates and men and women who completed their schooling at the turn of the century display the enthusiasm of cub reporters when sent on assignments for their school paper.

Daytime classes in both journalism and short story writing for adults are offered at San Francisco Continuation High School, while evening courses are conducted two evenings each week at Galileo Evening High School, four nights a week at Humboldt Evening High School, and five nights each week at the Evening High School of Commerce. Instructors are seasoned newspaper men, and the school papers, published by the students, furnish practical experience in news reporting, news editing and advertising.

Students interested in these courses may enroll at any time.

Hotel Strike Threatened

Strike action against the leading New York hotels, which have stalled on negotiations for many months, was approved by six unions of A. F. of L. workers if the hotel owners do not come to terms by November 15. The action was approved unanimously by 2200 workers.

The unions seek an immediate 15 per cent wage increase. Hotel owners have countered with a tentative promise of a 10 per cent increase next April, when the influx of visitors for the World's Fair begins.

Members of the New York Hotel Trades Joint Council, which is conducting negotiations, are Local 6, Hotel and Club Employees' Union; Local 3, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers; Locals 94 and 94a, International Union of Operating Engineers; Local 38a, Building Service Employees' Union, and Local 56, Firemen and Oilers' Union.

Although the word "strike" was not mentioned in the council's action, the union leaders were authorized to take any appropriate steps.

A NEW HOUSEHOLD CONVENIENCE

Windows that can be raised or lowered electrically by pressing a button may be a household convenience of the near future, according to John D. Biggers, president of Libbey-Owens-Ford Glass Company.

Goodwill Congress

With a program of war prevention and understanding between nations, the International Goodwill Congress has been in session in San Francisco this week.

Among the distinguished visitors is the Rt. Rev. G. Ashton Oldham, Bishop of Albany, who will address the Armistice Day service of the International Goodwill Congress this (Friday) morning. Bishop Oldham said he does not fall prey to pessimism over world conditions partly because of his belief in God, partly because of his belief in human nature.

It is a matter of faith, he says, but not blind faith.

"It's time we stopped giving moral lectures to other nations," declares the bishop. "We must call conferences for solution of our joint economic problems and then proceed to plan for international disarmament. Wars come from hunger, poverty and despair, and it is obvious that, unless universal, starvation will follow on the heels of this mad arms race."

Labor's Law

("Hosiery Worker")

On Monday, October 24, the Federal Wages and Hours Bill will go into effect.

Thus will be achieved the first results of a battle for legislation covering wages and working conditions which began even before the N.I.R.A. was enacted, a battle carried on primarily by the labor movement.

The members of the American Federation of Hosiery Workers can be proud of the part they played in making possible the Wages and Hours Law. Their delegations to Washington, their post card "telegrams," their visits to congressmen all helped to put across the law.

It is a law which is not perfect, or even nearly so. We must help improve it. It is a law difficult of enforcement. We must see to it that it works, we must see to it that it accomplishes its purpose.

The labor movement was responsible for the Wages and Hours Law. It must also be responsible for defending and extending it.

INCREASE FOR BRASS WORKERS

The strike called against the Royal Brass Manufacturing Company of Cleveland, Ohio, by the Machinists' and Metal Polishers' local unions, A. F. of L. affiliates, was settled by the negotiation of an agreement calling for wage increases ranging from 5 to 10 per cent.

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S. F. Labor Council

Labor Council meets every Friday at 8 p. m. at Labor Temple, Sixteenth and Capp streets. Secretary's office and headquarters, Room 205, Labor Temple. The Executive and Arbitration Committees meet every Monday at 7:30 p. m. Label Section meets first and third Wednesdays at 8 p. m. Headquarters phone, MArket 6304.

Synopsis of Minutes of Meeting Held Friday Evening, November 4, 1938

Called to order at 8:15 p. m. by President John F. Shelley.

Roll Call of Officers—All present.

Minutes of Previous Meeting—Approved as printed in Labor Clarion.

Credentials—Nurses No. 19923, Clarice E. Tripp vice Estelle Blair. Street Carmen No. 1004, Daniel J. Mullins, E. L. Parker, H. G. Paul, Harry F. Lundman, Paul Colbert, S. W. Douglas, P. Z. Hayes, Charles A. Blakely, James F. Gallagher and P. J. Gillespie; Electrical Workers No. 6, withdrawing Delegate Urmy; Street Carmen No. 518, Edward Grant vice E. D. Vandeleur, Frank McBean vice Edward Grant. Delegates seated.

At this time President Shelley asked to submit his report on the recent developments in the department store strike; his reason being that he had to attend a radio broadcast. He reported on all conferences that were held and the assistance that was given by the Committee of Five from this Council, which lasted close to eight weeks. He said all of the changes that have been made in the last year's agreement are in the union's favor. They received a change which they wanted in the vacation clause, giving them two weeks' vacation after two years' employment instead of after three years' employment, necessary under the previous contract. The seniority clause was finally written as the union wanted it written. The department seniority clause was entirely eliminated and any

person having a grievance is entitled to have it reviewed by the board of adjustment.

President Shelley then called the vice-president to the chair and left the meeting. Vice-President Palacios appointed Delegate D. P. Haggerty vice president pro tem.

Communications—Filed: Minutes of Building and Construction Trades Council. District Council of Retail Clerks submitted a copy of resolution dealing with the subject of Proposition No. 1 and recommending that a committee of five be appointed to do everything in its power to co-ordinate its efforts with the rest of the labor movement in California in defeating Proposition No. 1, and that copies of this resolution be sent to all local affiliates of this Labor Council and to all central bodies in California. Fruit and Vegetable Clerks No. 1017, requesting that the matter pertaining to one of the partners in the United Market be taken up by the executive committee. Central Labor Council of Stockton, relative to their campaign against Proposition No. 1. American Federation of Labor, stating that the proceedings of the Houston convention were now ready for distribution; price is 75 cents per copy. San Francisco Federation of Teachers No. 61, relative to the attitude of Governor Merriam toward labor. A like resolution was submitted by Street Carmen, Division 518. American Federation of Labor, regarding the Wage and Hour Law enacted by Congress during the last session; referred to Voters' Coalition Campaign Committee. The following unions have made donations for the defeat of Proposition No. 1: Pharmacists No. 838, \$100; Street Carmen No. 1004, \$150, San Francisco and East Bay Ink and Roller Makers No. 5, \$50; Teamsters No. 350, \$100; Pastemakers, \$25; Carpenters No. 22, \$100; Laundry Drivers No. 256, \$100; Packers and Preserve Workers No. 20989, \$10; Masters, Mates and Pilots No. 90, \$25; Electrical Workers No. 6, \$400. The following unions made donations to the Retail Department Store strike fund: Joint Executive Board of Culinary Workers, \$1000; Street Carmen No. 1004, \$150; Mailers No. 18, \$15.

Resolutions—Resolution was submitted by Trackmen No. 648 with reference to one of its members who had been discriminated against by the manager of the Municipal Railway; after passing a competitive examination for the position of supervisor of maintenance of way and being No. 1 on the list, he was asked to resign and go back to his job as track foreman, so that an engineer, who was No. 2 on the list, might be appointed in his place; Trackmen's Union No. 648 protests the action of the manager and requests that copies of this resolution be sent to Mayor Rossi, Public Utilities and Civil Service Commissions and the Manager of Public Utilities. Motion made and seconded that the resolution be adopted; motion carried. (See Resolution elsewhere in Labor Clarion.)

Report of Executive Committee—Called to order

at 8 p. m. by Vice-Chairman John C. Daly. In the matter of wage scale and agreement of the Millinery Workers' Union, no one came before the committee, wherefore the matter was again laid over. One fundamental amendment has been proposed in this agreement, wherefore the union is requested to be represented at the next meeting. In the matter of complaint of Coopers' Union No. 65, the union was represented by Brothers Tousaint, Mohler, Clarke, Maletti and Hansen; no one appeared for the company conducting the winery; the matter was therefore referred to the officers of the Council, with directions to report at the next meeting of the committee. In view of the desire of the members of the Nurses' Union to secure early engagements at Treasure Island, your committee recommends that the Council indorse the employment of union nurses at Treasure Island and joins with the nurses in petitioning the Fair management to take steps to employ union nurses at an early date. Report of committee adopted.

Reports of Unions—Fruit and Vegetable Clerks No. 1017 reported that the matter concerning one of the partners in the United Market had been settled. Department Store Employees, Local 1100, reported that the strike has been settled; will have a stronger union by reason of their action; thank all for assistance; request all who make purchases to demand the clerk's card or button; request all who are contributing to continue their support, as they have a great number of members to care for until they get a pay day; also they will have to take care of the Kress and Newberry stores' strikers. The Candy and Confectionery Workers, No. 24, have signed an agreement with the employers; \$200 donated to Proposition No. 1; \$25 to Local No. 1100. Actors have arrived at an agreement with Exposition officials.

Report of Label Section—Brother Thomas Rotell of the Union Label Section asked every delegate to take the following message back to his organization: To call to the attention of the Council any persons representing labor by giving balls, entertainments or other activities, that have no sanction from the labor movement, and that all members should disregard these gentlemen when they put in an appearance; and Brother Rotell's suggestions were referred to the officers to take up with the proper authorities and stop such solicitation.

New Business—Dr. Herbert Goghegan, representing the American Federation of Teachers, addressed the Council on his attempt to organize teachers and bring them in line with the trade union policy. Moved that the Law and Legislative Committee be instructed to investigate the activities of groups who would control the operation of the Golden Gate Bridge. Motion carried.

Receipts, \$2650; expenditures, \$2168.09.

Moved to adjourn for two weeks on account of next Friday falling on a holiday (Armistice Day).

Council adjourned at 10 p. m.

Fraternally submitted.

JOHN A. O'CONNELL, Secretary.

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Resolution

Whereas, A grave injustice is being done to a member of the Trackmen's Union by reason of the following facts:

Last June the general foreman, maintenance of way, Municipal Railway, retired. The manager of the railway requested the title be abolished and be designated as supervisor of maintenance of way, and that a competitive examination be held for that position. In that examination J. J. McCarthy, a track foreman in the Municipal Railway for three years and an employee of the railroad for twenty-four years, headed the list of competitors. He was appointed and certified by the Civil Service Commission to that position in August.

Two weeks ago the manager of the Municipal Railway requested he resign and return to his former position as track foreman, giving as his reason that he wanted No. 2 on the list (an engineer) for the job. According to the scope set by the Civil Service Commission, an engineer could not qualify to take the examination. His claim was that he had supervision of a short section of railway in Hetch Hetchy, whose traction power is an auto truck. Under the circumstances set forth a grave injustice will be done to remove McCarthy, and the merit system is subject to honest criticism; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the San Francisco Labor Council protest against the action of the manager of the Municipal Railway in this matter and that copies be sent to his honor Mayor Rossi, the Public Utilities and Civil Service Commissions and the manager of utilities.

Adopted by the San Francisco Labor Council at its regular meeting Friday, November 4, 1938.

Attest:

JOHN F. SHELLEY, President.
JOHN A. O'CONNELL, Secretary.

SHOULD WEAR UNION BUTTON

It is reported that since the Department Store Employees' strike settlement some employers have forbidden the clerks to wear their union buttons while at work. President Stanley Scott of the union has instructed all clerks to wear their buttons as a right. Customers have been refusing to purchase from clerks who do not wear the blue November button of the union, it was reported.

BOATMEN AND LONGSHOREMEN

A deadline for submission of counter-proposals by the Bay and River Navigation Company was reported by the Inlandboatmen's Union, which has been negotiating for a new contract with the company. The rate of pay for loading of cars at Richmond and Oakland with sugar which has been brought by boat from Crockett is the cause of the controversy. This work is performed by boatmen at their regular monthly wage. However, the International Longshoremen's Union has intervened with a demand that the "going rate" for longshore work be substituted.

"The Torch-Bearers"

If scintillating wit, light, frothy comedy and ludicrous situations provoking hilarious laughter appeal to you, then you'll want to be sure to see "The Torch-Bearers," George Kelly's gay comedy of the "little theater movement," which Homer Curran and Luther Green will present at the Curran Theater for a limited engagement starting on Monday evening, November 14.

"The Torch-Bearers" is the name of the play within a play which the ardent upholders of the drama and the lower social strata are giving as a benefit in aid of the Seamen's Institute—"for the poor sailors who must be protected."

Constance Collier, for whom Noel Collier wrote "Hay Fever," returns to the local footlights as the very pompous Mrs. J. Duro Pampinelli, the little

theater apostle. Others in the cast of New York favorites are Clay Clement, Florence Shirley, Clare Verdera and Ottola Nesmith.

Under the expert direction of author George Kelly, "The Torch-Bearers" will take audiences backstage, in one of the funniest second acts ever written, to witness a rare privilege of seeing all the mishaps that take place while these amateurs present their play for the worthy charity. But it seems that the charity is more worthy than the "performance." It would be unfair to give away all of the rare fun in "The Torch-Bearers." Suffice it to say that it is a riot from start to finish.

REINSTATED WITH PAY

Reinstatement with back pay for twenty-three employees of the Montgomery Ward Company in Portland, Ore., was ordered by the National Labor Relations Board in Washington. The workers were discharged because of membership in the Weighers, Warehousemen and Cereal Workers, Local 38-123, the board found.

Nurses' Union

C. TRIPP, R. N., Publicity

Last Thursday the representatives of Nurses' Union No. 19923 visited the hospital base at Shasta Dam.

This huge construction project is amazing to behold and, while actually just started, it employs hundreds of workers in different capacities.

As we were particularly interested in the hospital base, we were pleased to find a grand twenty-four bed hospital in the final period of construction.

Rowland Watson, representative of the American Federation of Labor, discussed the situation regarding placing union nurses in the hospital, and it looks very favorable. As all union labor is employed on the dam, the union nurse has her place there also.

New Gymnasium Opened

Lowell High School's new \$120,000 boys' gymnasium was dedicated last Sunday, November 6, at 2 o'clock, with a short ceremony, after which the doors of the new gymnasium were thrown open for public inspection.

In the absence of President R. E. Doyle, Charles A. Derry, vice-president of the Board of Education, presided, and the guest of honor was Dr. John P. O'Brien, commander of the County Council of the American Legion, which organization is sponsoring the local observance of American Education Week.

Speakers on the short program were C. Harold Caulfield, commissioner of education; Mrs. Joseph A. Garry, president of the Second District P. T. A.; Joseph P. Nourse, superintendent of schools; Attorney Clifford Good, representing Lowell parents; Charles A. Sawyer, city architect; Leroy Stephens, Lowell principal, and Jack Sloan and Joan Litchfield, representing the student body.

On open air concert by the Lowell High School band, under direction of Madison Devlin, preceded the speaking program. The Lowell boys' double quartet, under direction of Miss Julia Neppert, rendered several selections.

We Don't Patronize

SATURDAY EVENING POST

LADIES' HOME JOURNAL

COUNTRY GENTLEMAN

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Second Union Label and Industrial Exhibition

Encouraged by the success of its Union Label and Industrial Exhibition, held a year ago in the Civic Auditorium, the Union Label Section of San Francisco is perfecting plans for an even bigger and better exhibition next year.

With Thomas A. Rotell as secretary-managing director, the Label Section has determined that next year's exhibition will occupy not only the Auditorium itself but the two adjoining halls, which will increase the floor space by approximately 50 per cent.

The Union Label and Industrial Exhibition has received the endorsement of practically every trade and labor union in San Francisco comprised in the California State Federation of Labor, the San Francisco Labor Council, the San Francisco Building and Construction Trades Council, the Bay City Metal Trades Council, the Joint Council of Teamsters, the Local Joint Culinary Board, the Allied Printing Trades Council, the California State Federation of Butchers, the Theatrical Federation, the Federation of Building Service Crafts and the District Council of Clerks.

The exhibition will begin on May 10 with an official gala opening and will continue until May 14, with two programs daily—from 1 to 5 p. m. and from 7 to 11 p. m. Admission will be free.

"This Union Label and Industrial Exhibition," declares the Label Section, "affords direct contact with 300,000 buyers—a personal touch with the consumer—the opportunity to display and demonstrate to the trade and consumer. This Exhibition is in itself a complete advertising program. As a business booster exhibitions have a powerful appeal to the public."

The same methods of distributing free merchandise as obtained at last spring's exhibition will again be used at next May's exhibition. Admission will be free.

C. I. O. AIDS A. F. OF L. STRIKERS

Fighting a 10 per cent wage cut, 1100 furniture workers in two locals of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners in Portland, Ore., have been on strike for more than a month. A 50-cent assessment to aid the carpenters has just been voted by the International Longshoremen and Warehousemen's Union.

TEST SPARK PLUGS

A spark plug that is not firing properly will fail to produce correct combustion, according to the emergency road service of the California State Automobile Association. Plugs should be cleaned and tested at regular intervals.

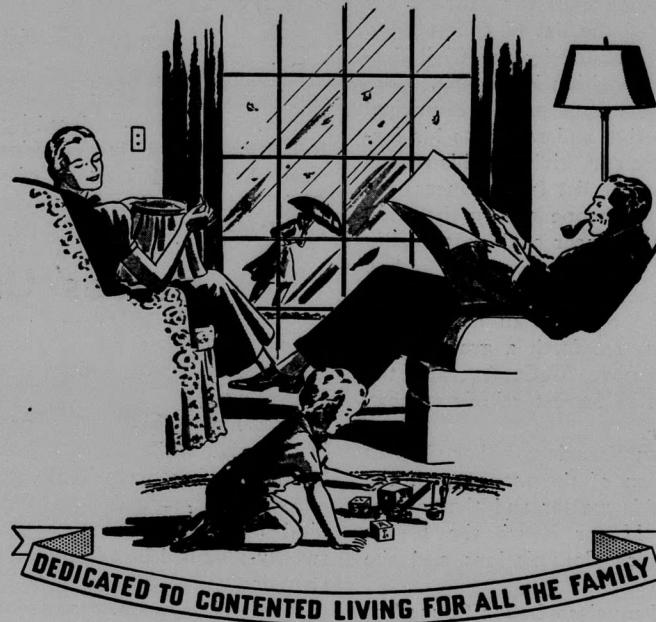
Federation Proceedings

Secretary Vandeleur of the California State Federation of Labor announces that the proceedings of the 1938 convention are being placed in the mail and should be in the hands of delegates and union officials by the close of the week. In addition to the convention proceedings the book contains the annual reports of the officers and comprises 180 pages.

Also mailed to each affiliated union with the proceedings is a copy of the constitution of the Federation as amended at the Santa Barbara convention, an appeal in behalf of the label of the United Garment Workers, and the revised "We Don't Patronize List" of the state body.

Issuing of the proceedings was delayed on account of the great amount of additional work in the Federation headquarters in connection with the state-wide fight made against State Proposition No. 1, which was so successfully carried forward to victory.

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